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20 October 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of General Reynolds by DIAAP-1, 6 October 1965

1. The Commanding General DIA Production Center, [] introduced the briefing. He stated that he wished to present [] with an overall view of the photographic exploitation being done on China by the Production Center by briefing on several programs.
2. [] DIAAP-IM briefed on insufficient coverage against priority targets in south China. He reviewed specific first priority targets (primarily intelligence indicator type) and illustrated the poor coverage of these targets during the last year. [] stressed the difficulty in producing good intelligence when there was a complete lack of information.
3. [] DIAAP-IC provided a background briefing on the extensive logistics support study which the Production Center completed last year (Reference: SAO/PC 465/2-1-65, "Military Logistics and Capabilities: Communist China", Tabs A through I, with map supplements). This study used analysts brought in on TDY from field commands and officers assigned at DIA headquarters. It was aimed at providing a basic intelligence support study on the ability of the Chinese Communists to support military operations in various peripheral areas. Each of the Tab studies undertook to cover a specific front such as, Tibet-India, Burma-Thailand, Vietnam-Laos, Taiwan Strait, Korea. The study on Tibet/India has been updated and is due out momentarily. The studies on Burma-Thailand and on Vietnam are currently being reviewed. All of these studies concerned primarily transportation and storage capabilities, but also covered generally such other military items as locations of barracks areas. It did not delve deeply into the overall problem of order of battle of the Communist Chinese military establishment.

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4. [] DIAAP-IC presented a background briefing on the methodology being used to study Soviet ground forces order of battle. This was essentially an updating of the briefing given during the summer to the Board of National Estimates. It covered the study of high resolution photography of ground force installations and ground force support facilities.

5. [] DIAAP-IC briefed on work now underway in the Production Center to integrate photographic information into the analysis of the Chinese ground forces problem. He noted that work during 1964 and early 1965 was primarily directed toward support of the logistic capability study and that it was only recently that any effort was devoted to using photography specifically on order of battle analysis. The military logistics study had included a barracks count, but additional research in depth was not attempted. (The graphics used in this presentation were essentially the same graphics that had been used for the Board of National Estimates briefing in the early summer.) []

[] Analysis other than confirming the location, has not been undertaken in a systematic way. The Kunming Military Region is now being looked at in depth and all military establishments are to be analyzed.

6. During the question and answer period, the subject of increased effort on order of battle was discussed, and [] DIAAP-IC, indicated that it was planned to integrate photo interpreters with the analytical component to allow analysis in depth against the order of battle. The plan called for a combination of 6 analysts and 2 PIs working as a team on the Chinese ground forces problem. Three analysts are now assigned to the problem. He hoped to recruit additional personnel in the near future and complete an inventory of Chinese ground force installations within a year. General Maples reiterated that Production Center had the ground force problem well in hand and could handle it with no outside assistance.

7. [] DIAAP-IR briefed on a series of "regional military petroleum storage facilities". He presented a map showing 16 such facilities, with a total of 539,000 metric tons of petroleum (14% of the total storage capacity of China). He noted that there was some correlation between the locations of these sites and known ammunition

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storage fields [redacted]

[redacted] He pointed out that in addition to analysis done locally on this subject, an Army reserve petroleum intelligence group from Dallas had been called in.

8. [redacted] in ending the briefing, indicated that there were several other briefings he would like to give [redacted] He was leaving for Europe that afternoon and would not be back before the end of October, but hoped to schedule the additional briefings shortly thereafter.

CGS/PEG [redacted]:afl [redacted]

Distribution:

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